

## What is Illinois Cares Rx?

Benefits from SeniorCare and the pharmaceutical portion of Circuit Breaker will be joined in a new program called Illinois Cares Rx.

This support is part of our continuing service to seniors and persons with disabilities in Illinois.

Supplemental coverage will help fill the gaps in the new Medicare prescription drug plan that starts January 1, 2006.

If you do not qualify for Medicare, Illinois Cares Rx will help pay for your prescriptions.

You can count on support from the Illinois pharmaceutical programs designed for you.

## Who can help you?

Contact:

Illinois Department on Aging  
Senior HelpLine:

- 1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TTY),
- 1-800-624-2459,  
(TTY: 1-800-544-5304),
- Senior Health Insurance Program  
HelpLine, 1-800-548-9034  
(TTY: 1-217-524-4872).

or write to:

Illinois Cares Rx Program  
P.O. Box 19021  
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9021,

or visit:

[www.illinoisbenefits.org](http://www.illinoisbenefits.org) on the web.



"Illinois Cares Rx means no senior or person with disabilities will be left behind."

Rod R. Blagojevich  
Governor

**Illinois Department on Aging**  
421 E. Capitol Ave., #100  
Springfield, Illinois 62701-1789

**Senior HelpLine:**  
**1-800-252-8966** (Voice and TTY)

Download this brochure at [www.state.il.us/aging](http://www.state.il.us/aging)  
in the "News and Publications" section.

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TTY).

Printed by Authority State of Illinois (07/05, 20M)

State of Illinois  
Rod R. Blagojevich, Governor



Illinois Department on Aging  
Illinois Department of Healthcare  
and Family Services

# Illinois Cares Rx

No senior or person with disabilities left behind

## Illinois Cares Rx...

A *new name* for SeniorCare and the pharmaceutical portion of Circuit Breaker; *better benefits*.

Medicare Part D, the new federal prescription drug plan, will begin January 1, 2006.

The state programs, *SeniorCare* and the pharmaceutical portion of *Circuit Breaker*, will be joined - **NOT ELIMINATED** - to form **Illinois Cares Rx**, a new program to help pay the costs that Medicare does not.

## Eligible for Medicare?

The new Medicare Prescription Drug Plan offers various types of prescription coverage. To be eligible for Illinois Cares Rx, Medicare enrollees **MUST**:

- apply for Medicare's "extra help" and
- sign up for a Medicare drug plan.

### How to apply for "extra help":

Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or SHIP at 1-800-548-9034 or the Department on Aging Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 (Voice and TTY).

### How to enroll in a Medicare drug plan:

You will receive information in the Fall. If you have questions, call 1-800-633-4227 or visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) on the web.

Illinois Cares Rx will help pay expenses such as premiums, deductibles and co-insurance for covered prescriptions.

- There will be a \$2 co-pay for generic drugs and a \$5 co-pay for brand-name drugs. Once Illinois Cares Rx and the Medicare prescription drug plan have paid \$1,750 in benefits on your behalf, you will be required to pay 20% of the cost of each prescription and any applicable co-pays. After \$5,100 of prescription drug-spending, co-insurance for those in Medicare drops to 5%.

**NOTE:** Unless you enroll in Illinois Cares Rx or Medicare's "extra help," under the new Medicare prescription drug plan you will be responsible for:

- premiums of about \$37 each month,
- an annual deductible of \$250,
- 25% of prescription drug costs between \$250 and \$2,250, and
- all prescription drug costs between \$2,250 and \$5,100, referred to as the "donut hole."

## If you are not eligible for Medicare:

Illinois Cares Rx will help pay for your prescriptions. There will be a \$2 co-pay for generic drugs and a \$5 co-pay for brand-name drugs. Once Illinois Cares Rx has paid \$1,750 in benefits on your behalf, you will be required to pay 20% of the cost of each prescription in addition to any applicable co-pays.



## Illinois Cares Rx:

You may be eligible for Illinois Cares Rx if you fall in one of the following two groups, whether you are Medicare-eligible or not:

### Group 1. (an improved SeniorCare Program - new name, better benefits)

#### *What's covered?*

All classes of medically necessary prescription drugs are covered.

#### *Who can enroll?*

Seniors, age 65 or older, who are . . .

- single with an annual income of no more than \$19,140; or
- a couple with an annual income of no more than \$25,660; and
- a citizen or qualified non-citizen.



### Group 2. (an improved Circuit Breaker Pharmaceutical Assistance program - new name, better benefits)

#### *What's covered?*

Prescription drugs for the treatment of Alzheimer's disease, arthritis, cancer, diabetes, glaucoma, cardiovascular disease, lung disease and smoking-related illnesses, osteoporosis, Parkinson's disease and multiple sclerosis.

#### *Who can enroll?*

Seniors or persons with disabilities with income less than \$21,218 for a single person or \$28,480 for a couple. There is no citizenship requirement.

### What will happen to my current Medicare prescription drug discount card?

These cards will expire on Dec. 31, 2005. You may continue to use your card until you sign up for a new drug plan or until May 31, 2006, whichever comes first.

Illinois Cares Rx; continuing pharmaceutical benefits for seniors and persons with disabilities

